

## Message Text

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11

ACTION DEAE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-07

SCI-06 OMB-01 SS-20 SCSE-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-03 PA-04

PRS-01 DRC-01 /116 W

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R 081918Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5318

UNCLAS NASSAU 426

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR BF

SUBJ: FEBRUARY NARCOTICS WRAP-UP

1. ACTIVITIES INVOLVING ILLICIT DRUGS CONTINUED AT MODERATE LEVELS DURING FEBRUARY. THERE WAS SOME CONCERN THAT ISOLATED INCIDENTS, NONE INVOLVING US CITIZENS, INDICATED THAT THE USE OF COCAINE WAS INCREASING IN THE BAHAMAS.

2. BACK IN DECEMBER 1973, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, TWO US CITIZENS WERE ARRESTED ON EXUMA ISLAND WHEN THEY LANDED THEIR PRIVATE PLANE THERE. LOCAL POLICE FOUND FIFTEEN SACKS OF MARIJUANA ABOARD. BOTH WERE ARRESTED AND CHARGED, BUT ONE OF THEM WAS A YOUNG LADY WHO WAS RELEASED BY BAHAMIAN AUTHORITIES. THE MALE, JAMES HAWKINS, WAS FOUND GUILTY AND SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS IMPRISONMENT AND AN \$1,800 FINE. THE PLANE WAS HELD BY GCOB AUTHORITIES. FOLLOWING SENTENCING, HE RETAINED LEGAL COUNSEL AND FILED AN APPEAL, PENDING WHICH HE WAS RELEASED ON BAIL. LAST MONTH HE CONTACTED FRIENDS IN THE US WHO FLEW DOWN TO NASSAU, PICKED HIM UP AND FLEW ON TO EXUMA. THERE THEY HELD UP THE BAHAMIAN CUSTOMS OFFICER WHO HAD CUSTODY OF THE AIRCRAFT AND HAWKINS FLEW IT, APPARENTLY, BACK TO THE US.

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3. IN SEPARATE BUT PROBABLY RELATED INCIDENTS, TWO JAMAICANS

WERE FINED A TOTAL OF \$3,000 FOR IMPORTING MARIJUANA IN FALSE-BOTTOMED SUITCASES. BOTH WERE APPREHENDED, A DAY APART, AT NASSAU AIRPORT BY VIGILANT CUSTOMS OFFICER. THE TWO ARE VICTOR BERNARD OTTLEY, 32, AND NORMA EMMA WATSON, 21. OTTLEY SAID HE HAD COME TO THE BAHAMAS BECUASE HE HAD HEARD IT WAS A SELLER'S MARKET.

4. THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, STILL UNDER UK JURISDICTION, HAVE BEEN THE SCENE OF SEVERAL RECENT MARIJUANA ARRESTS. THE REMOTE AIRSTRIP ON WEST CAICOS HAS AS A RESULT BEEN CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES. APPARENTLY A SEAPLANE OWNED BY JIM TENNANT, WHO RECENTLY DIED IN A FLORIDA PLANE CRASH THAT SAW A LARGE QUANTITY OF MARIJUANA GO UP IN SMOKE, WAS INVOLVED IN ILLICIT DRUG ACTIVITIES. ANOTHER AIRCRAFT IS IN LOCAL CUSTODY AT SOUTH CAICOS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FOR SIMILAR ACITIVITIES.

5. THIRTEEN US CITIZENS WERE ARRESTED FOR POSSESSION OF SMALL AMOUNTS OF MARIJUANA DURING FEBRUARY.  
SPIERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG TRAFFIC, COCAINE, MARIJUANA, DRUG SEIZURES, ARRESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** FEBRUARY NARCOTICS WRAP-UP  
**TAGS:** SNAR, BF, US, (HAWKINS, JAMES), (WARSON, NORM EMMA), (OTTLEY, VICTOR BERNARD)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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